

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

REVIEW CRITERIA
EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1993

CRITERIA NUMBER 5 - THORACIC OUTLET SYNDROME
NEUROGENIC ORIGIN

I. Narrative Description:

A. Thoracic Outlet Release - Neurogenic

II. History/Symptoms:

A. Must meet the following in the affected upper extremities

1. Pain; **and**
2. Paresthesia (numbness, prickling, in the ulnar nerve distribution - side of forearm opposite thumb

AND

III. Physical Findings:

A. Must meet two of the following test that exactly reproduce symptoms of pain with or without pulse obliteration in the affected upper extremity:

1. Roos maneuver; **or**
2. Adson's maneuver; **or**
3. Costoclavicular maneuver; **or**
4. Hyperabduction maneuver

AND

IV. Diagnostic Testing:

A. Positive test findings on one of the following the affected upper extremity:

1. Positive doppler ultrasonography; **or**
2. Positive nerve conduction studies; **or**
3. EMG; **or**
4. Somatosensory evoked potential studies; **or**
5. X-ray studies that confirm the presence of cervical ribs, elongated C-7 process, hypoplastic first rib, or fractured clavicle.

AND

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- B. Failure to improve after three months of conservative treatment; and
- C. A second surgical opinion is obtained from a non-surgical specialist (e.g., neurologist, physiatrist, or rheumatologist).

V. **Special Instructions:**

- A. *A psychiatrist or psychological evaluation may be required on a case-specific basis.*

VI. **Level of Care Required:**

- A. *Inpatient*